August 13, 2020

Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Congratulations to our Parish Associate, Don Ewing, who on August 15<sup>th</sup> begins his 5<sup>th</sup> year at OPC! We are glad that you are here!

I have been encouraged by how many of you have been watching and responding to the on-line worship services. Weekly someone tells me "I watch the recorded worship service!" One member asked that, when our normal patterns resume, we consider holding a "pajama service". For now, we will continue posting worship online by Sunday morning (thanks to Ron Burkert!) and holding in-person worship Sunday mornings. Our praise has not been quarantined!

Sunday worship remains at 10 a.m. through Labor Day. Beginning September 13<sup>th</sup>, we'll return to the 11 a.m. worship hour. If you plan to worship in-person please continue to reserve a seat by visiting our church website (www.oakmontpresbyterianchurch.org) or by calling the church office (412.828.5770).

Worship plans for the coming weeks with preachers in ( ) include:

- August 16 "God and the Pandemic" based on Acts 11:27-30 & Matthew 11:2-5 (Steve)
- August 23 "Who is that Person?" based on Psalm 124 & Matthew 16:13-20 (Don)
- August 30 "Holding God's Truth in Turbulent Times" based on Jeremiah 15:15-21 & Romans 12:9-21 (Frank Hancock)

Your Session meets monthly via Zoom. At our August 11<sup>th</sup> meeting Session wrestled with how to balance safety with programming for children, youth and adults. We plan to observe the mitigating practices of providing hand sanitizer, wearing masks, maintaining physical distance, meeting in rooms with open windows (when possible) and limiting indoor meetings to 30-60 minutes. Session affirmed that these guidelines apply (as much as possible) to weddings, baptisms and funerals.

We will receive new members during Sunday morning worship on September 13. Please contact the church office if you know of someone interested in becoming a part of our faith community.

I am making pastoral contacts by email, phone and, at times, in person. Please pass along any need for pastoral support.

If you have not seen the introductory interview of Ronnie Bailey, our Education Director for Children and Youth, visit <a href="https://www.oakmontpresbyterianchurch.org/ronnie-bailey">https://www.oakmontpresbyterianchurch.org/ronnie-bailey</a>.

In a future mailing we will report the fall plans for worship, prayer and spiritual nurture.

Lastly, we are in need of Clorox wipes (or any similar generic brand) and Lysol hydrogen peroxide multi-purpose cleaner. If you are able to donate such items we will appreciate your gift.

Yours in Christ,